

See the attached Appendix for the changes made to effect the above claim(s).

Please add the following new claim(s):

--8. The method of Claim 4, wherein said Z-chromosome specific microsatellite linkage map is generated by confirming the presence and location of said marker DNA on the Z-chromosome using PCR amplification and/or fluorescent *in situ* hybridization (FISH).

9. The method of Claim 6, wherein said second Z-chromosome specific microsatellite linkage map is generated using a species of avian that is different from the first, and said second map is generated using heterologous fluorescent *in situ* hybridization (FISH) of metaphase chromosomes.--